

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF THE NEW YORK CITY
FIREFMEN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the New York City Firemen, and to submit for the record a brief article written by one of my constituents, Mr. Matthew T. Fitzsimmons. Mr. Fitzsimmons truly captures the selfless nature of the hundreds of firemen that have risked their lives since September 11th, and those that continue to put themselves in harm's way. It is my hope that this article inspires you to realize the true American spirit embodied by "New York's Bravest."

CLIMBING A STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN

(By Matthew T. Fitzsimmons)

I have always been proud to be the son of a retired New York City fireman (Marine Co. 9) and brother of a current New York City fireman (Ladder Co. 77). I was born and raised in the tradition and culture of the New York City Fire Department. I am now a lawyer in Cleveland.

Last Tuesday morning at the World Trade Center, New York City firefighters demonstrated to the world, in the most graphic manner imaginable, why they are called New York's Bravest. As tens of thousands evacuated the Twin Towers in mass hysteria, the firefighters, with complete and utter disregard for their own safety, ran into and up the buildings to rescue the injured and others in need of help. It was an extraordinary act of bravery.

Up thirty, forty, fifty, sixty, seventy floors, and higher, with full gear. A height at which you could almost reach out and touch the face of God. Unbeknownst to them, they were climbing a stairway to heaven.

There have been many words used to describe last week's attack on our country: horrific, horrendous, barbaric, tragic, and surreal. For me, there was nothing more horrific, horrendous, barbaric, tragic, surreal—and sickening—than Tuesday's TV graphic that approximately three hundred New York City firefighters were missing, and presumed dead. It is a number that is beyond comprehension—beyond comprehension. It is numbing. Three hundred firefighters—about fifty companies—are significantly more than are on duty in the entire City of Cleveland on any given day.

My thoughts this past week have not been on the faraway lands of Afghanistan, Pakistan, or the Middle East, but on the neighborhoods of Brooklyn, Queens, Staten Island, and the closer in suburbs of Long Island, where families of many firefighters live. The sense of loss and grief in those neighborhoods must be unbearable and unspeakable. I am very sorry for their loss, and mourn with them. To paraphrase Will Rogers' eulogy of President Woodrow Wilson, last Tuesday the world lost three hundred of its greatest friends. Tellingly, it now appears that about ten percent of those who died at the World Trade Center died trying to rescue others.

Firefighters in all cities share many admirable qualities. They are, for the most part, good family men and women. They love kids, and are good with, and make time for, them. They make great Little League coaches, pee-wee football coaches, and CYO basketball coaches—much more so than doctors, lawyers, investment bankers, and the dotcom crowd. Because they face death with the ring of every alarm bell, they appreciate how valuable and precious life is—each life. Above all else, they are extraordinarily brave.

When my father died in 1996, a reporter from one of the New York newspapers asked if he could deliver the eulogy at his funeral Mass. In the early 1970's, this reporter had witnessed my father, then the pilot of the Firefighter (the world's largest and most powerful fireboat), make a rescue in New York Harbor after a freighter and a container cargo ship collided near the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge. Scores of people were incinerated in the collision. My father had maneuvered the Firefighter between the two burning ships and rescued about twenty-five crewmen, who were trapped and jumping overboard. The heat was so intense that it melted the paint off the Firefighter's decks. The reporter, a safe distance away on a tugboat, thought the Firefighter was going to catch on fire, explode, and sink. The reporter recounted this rescue in the eulogy, and concluded by saying: "Your father was the bravest man I ever knew." My brothers and sisters and I were very proud to hear this tribute to our father.

In the upcoming days and weeks, there will be funeral Masses and services for all of these fallen heroes. I hope that at these Masses and services someone will tell the children of each one of these deceased firefighters that their father or mother "was the bravest person I ever knew."

Although America can be, at times, a country with a short memory, I am sure that America—indeed the entire world—will never, ever forget the bravery which the men and women of the New York City Fire Department displayed last Tuesday. I am confident that when those firefighters reached the top of that stairway to heaven, Our Lord and St. Peter were likewise in awe of their bravery.

100th ANNIVERSARY OF SS. PETER
AND PAUL UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC
CHURCH IN AUBURN, NY

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 100th anniversary of SS. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church in Auburn, NY. The congregation gathered to recognize this important milestone during a Centennial Jubilee celebration on Sunday, September 30, 2001.

It was during the pontificate of Pope St. Pius X that the first Ukrainian Catholic Bishop was appointed in the United States. An occa-

sion such as the Centennial Jubilee was an appropriate time for the parish to reaffirm their loyalty to the currently reigning Pope Paul VI.

Many Ukrainian Catholic priests served the Parish during the past 100 years as visitors, pastors/administrators, assistant pastors, missionaries, and substitutes. There were also many parochial projects that the pastors directed throughout the years.

This celebration was a time for reflecting on the love and dedication by members of the parish. Gratitude was given to those who devoted time and effort toward the well-being of the parish and also those who used their talents in special fields for the benefit of the parish.

On the occasion of its 100th anniversary, it is my honor to recognize the people of SS. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church and to extend best wishes for many more successful years of faith-based ministry to follow.

PATRIOT ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2001

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I have been proud to serve as a member of the House Judiciary Committee over the past month. In the past, our committee has had a reputation for confrontation—not consensus. But when terrorists destroyed the World Trade Center and assaulted the Pentagon, the Judiciary Committee beat its swords into plowshares.

Under the leadership of JIM SENSENBRENNER and JOHN CONYERS, we came together to produce a bipartisan bill that updates law enforcement's arsenal against terrorism without casting aside our fundamental liberties.

Our efforts produced a balanced bill that received a unanimous vote—a historic accomplishment. I wish it were the Judiciary Committee bill on the floor today.

Unfortunately, today's floor debate has tainted that accomplishment. The short-circuiting of the regular order clouds what should have been a day of unanimity.

Nonetheless, I rise in support of the antiterrorism legislation before us. While the bill is not perfect, it does maintain an acceptable balance between bolstering law enforcement powers and protecting our civil liberties.

In fact, when I read the Senate bill, I see much of the House Judiciary Committee's work reflected in that product.

Since our surveillance laws were first enacted, the terrorists have gotten smarter, faster, and richer. The technology that brings us unprecedented convenience has brought them unprecedented opportunities to wreak havoc. It's time for law enforcement to catch up.

I only regret that today's action won't have quite the bipartisan shine it should.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

TRIBUTE TO CELIA CRUZ

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ms. Celia Cruz, known as the "Queen of Salsa," who is being presented with the James Smithson Bicentennial Medal for her countless contributions to American culture and music for more than 40 years. I would also like to thank Ms. Cruz for her generous donation of a marvelous gown to the National Museum of American History which will be included in the exhibit "Moda y Musica: Stage, Fashion and Style" in commemoration of Hispanic Heritage Month.

Throughout her childhood in Havana, Cuba, Ms. Cruz's passion for music was well-known. As a young adult she became more serious about this passion. Already noted for her *pregón* singing (a vocal style which evolved from the calls, chants, and cries of street vendors) and various songs that had earned her local fame, Cruz enrolled at the Conservatory of Music to study voice and theory. Ms. Cruz has always appreciated the power of music, particularly the power of salsa and other forms of Hispanic music. Salsa music is the pulse of many Hispanic cultures and has in recent years been discovered and revered by people throughout the world.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Cruz left Cuba in 1960 and began recording with the legendary Tito Puente and his band in the United States, where they brought the heat and rhythm of Cuba and Puerto Rico to the streets of New York City, Puente's birth city. Ms. Cruz went on to marry her long-time friend and colleague Pedro Knight on July 14, 1962. Knight was the first trumpeter of Cruz's famed orchestra, La Sonora Matancera, and had known the singer for over 14 years. Knight has served as Cruz's protector, manager, and musical director ever since and gave her the golden "Salsa" engraved earrings she still wears.

Throughout Ms. Cruz's illustrious career, she has toured the world and appeared in numerous films, most notably the 1992 release, "Mambo Kings." She also played the role of La Gracia Divina in the groundbreaking opera "Hommy" at Carnegie Hall in 1973. Ms. Cruz has recorded over 70 albums. Many fans say that while her albums are among their most treasured, nothing compares to hearing the singer live in concert. Critics around the world have noted that she electrifies the stage. These accomplishments have earned Ms. Cruz the prestigious James Smithson Bicentennial Medal, awarded under the authorization of the Secretary of the Smithsonian to people who have made distinguished contributions to the advancement of society and culture.

After nearly half a century of high-energy concerts, album recordings, interviews and other speaking engagements, Ms. Cruz is still in high demand. To illustrate that fact, Mr. Speaker, I should mention that Ms. Cruz took home the 2000 Latin Grammy award for Best Salsa Performance. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Celia Cruz on earning the James Smithson Bicentennial Medal and in thanking her for decades of legendary music and for her terrific spirit.

TERRITORIAL CONCESSIONS TO YASSER ARAFAT—UTTERLY UN-ACCEPTABLE

HON. ERIC CANTOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in response to a series of recent news reports indicating that the State Department is developing a plan to pressure Israel to make territorial concessions to Yasser Arafat. The latest indications point to Israel even having to give up part of Jerusalem.

Mr. Speaker, such a proposal is utterly unacceptable.

I find it hard to believe that anyone would choose now as the time to put pressure on our only democratic friend in the Middle East, a friend that has been at the mercy of terrorists for decades.

According to a recent poll, the vast majority of Palestinians oppose the American air strikes against Afghanistan, and one in four believes terrorism against the United States is okay.

Terrorism is terrorism wherever it occurs: New York, Washington, Jerusalem, or Tel Aviv. Until Yasser Arafat rids himself of his ties to terrorism, he should not be rewarded with statehood.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "VIETNAM VETERANS BILL FOR ALASKA NATIVES"

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce legislation to provide for the equitable treatment of Alaska Native Vietnam veterans. My bill will amend Section 41 of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA). This section applies to the Native Allotments for Alaska Native Vietnam veterans.

In 1998, P.L. 105-276 (Section 432) amended the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) to provide Alaska Native Vietnam veterans an opportunity to obtain an allotment of up to 160 acres of land under the Native Allotment Act. There are approximately 2,800 Alaska Natives who served in the military during the Vietnam conflict who did not have an opportunity to apply for their Native allotment. When P.L. 105-276 became law, many Alaska Native Vietnam veterans were encouraged with the belief that they would finally receive recognition for their military service to the United States. Many Alaska Native Vietnam veterans saw this as their last opportunity to obtain land which had been used by their families for generations for subsistence purposes. That opportunity was lost to 1,700 Alaska Native Vietnam veterans who were excluded by the terms of P.L. 105-276 (which was harshly enforced by the previous Administration).

P.L. 105-276 contains three major obstacles which prohibit Alaska Native Vietnam veterans an opportunity to select and obtain their Native allotment. These obstacles are so for-

midable that 48% of the total Alaska Native Vietnam veteran allotment applications which have been filed (as of September 27, 2001) have been rejected [according to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM)]. The BLM also reports that only 116 applications for Alaska Native Vietnam veterans' allotments have been filed and 56 of those applications have been rejected. The reasons for all but 16 of the rejections are for one of the following reasons: (1) the land applied for is not available; and/or (2) the dates that the Alaska Native Vietnam veteran served during the Vietnam conflict did not coincide with those required under P.L. 105-276.

P.L. 105-276's first obstacle is: Alaska Native Vietnam veterans can only apply for land that was vacant, unappropriated, and unserved when their use of the land first began. Land that is available to Alaska Native Vietnam veterans for allotments is extremely limited or non-existent. For example, out of the 116 applications filed thus far, 36% have been rejected because the land applied for is not available under P.L. 105-276. Most land in Alaska is out of reach for Alaska Native Vietnam veteran allotments. Lands that are expressly not available for allotments are lands in a National Forest, selected by the State of Alaska or Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act Native Corporations or under a public land law, camping sites, designated wilderness, and acquired by the federal government through gift, purchase, or exchange.

The second obstacle is: Alaska Native Vietnam veterans can only apply if they served in active military duty from January 1, 1969 to December 31, 1971 (even though the Vietnam conflict began August 5, 1964 and ended May 7, 1975). The dates of January 1969 to December 1971 were adamantly required by the previous Administration because they did not want to give up any additional federal lands in Alaska. Approximately 1,700 Alaska Native Vietnam veterans who served during the Vietnam conflict are not eligible for an allotment under existing law because they do not meet the military service date's requirement. Many of those 1,700 veterans did not even apply, but those who did have been rejected. Of all of the applications rejected, 13% were rejected because the Alaska Native Vietnam veteran's military service dates did not meet the existing requirements.

The third obstacle is: Alaska Native Vietnam veterans must prove they used the land (applied for in their native allotment application) in a substantially continuous and independent manner, at least potentially exclusive of others, for five or more years. This requirement was not in the original Native Allotment Act, nor has it been required of other Alaska Native allotment applicants. This requirement further penalizes our Alaska Native Vietnam veterans and will certainly cause many applications to be rejected. Further, adjudication of use and occupancy issues will take years and will be very costly.

My proposed legislation will increase the available land by authorizing Alaska Native Vietnam veterans to apply for land that is federally owned and vacant. The lack of available land under existing law nullifies the very purpose of granting Alaska Native Vietnam veterans an allotment benefit. This is true because most land in Alaska is not available for Alaska Native Vietnam veteran allotment applications under existing laws. For example,

there is no land available in southeast Alaska because it either is within the Tongass National Forest or has been selected or conveyed to the State of Alaska or ANCSA Native Corporations. In addition, vast areas of land in Alaska were withdrawn before most Alaska Native Vietnam veterans could have made qualifying use of the land. In contrast, federally owned "vacant" land is still available throughout Alaska and should be made available for Alaska Native Vietnam veteran allotments.

My legislation will also expand the military service dates to the dates that coincide with the entire Vietnam era conflict: beginning August 5, 1964 and ending on May 7, 1975. The expansion of military service dates to include all Alaska Native Vietnam veterans who served in the military during the Vietnam conflict is consistent with the federal government's policy of providing benefits to all veterans of the Vietnam conflict and not just to some of those veterans. This provision also fulfills the trust obligation to Alaska Natives. The limited military service dates have excluded many Alaska Native Vietnam veterans who bravely served during the Vietnam conflict. Never before has the United States given veteran land benefits to only a portion of those who served their country. The federal government has given public land benefits to all veterans (or their widows or heirs) of every war beginning with the Indian Wars of 1790 and ending with the Korean conflict in 1955. As Members will recall, Alaska Native veterans were not eligible for these public land benefits until 1924 because the courts had determined Alaska Natives were not United States citizens.

My legislation will also replace existing use and occupancy requirements with legislative approval of allotment applications. The provision assures the legislative approval process affords due process protections of valid existing interests in the land a veteran claims. The use and occupancy requirements would be replaced with legislative approval for several reasons. First, Congress has made legislative approval available to all other allotment applicants under 43 U.S.C. Section 1634(a)(1)(A)—[Section 905 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) which extends the legislative approval of Native allotments that were pending at the time of passage of ANILCA]. Second, legislative approvals of allotments prevent costly and lengthy adjudication of use and occupancy issues. Legislative approval also prevents lengthy delays that will impede many Alaska Native Vietnam veteran applicants from ever receiving land during their lifetime. Third, there are many Alaska Native Vietnam veterans that could not meet use and occupancy requirements as a result of their service to their country. One example that illustrates this point is that a deserving Alaska Native Vietnam veteran who was paralyzed during the Vietnam conflict would be rejected if that veteran was unable to complete the five years of use of the claimed land and had not used the land for five years before the Vietnam conflict.

My legislation addresses the formidable barriers that deserving Alaska Native Vietnam

veterans face when applying for a Native allotment under P.L. 105-267. For many years, Alaska Natives have had a unique legal relationship with the United States. Because of this unique relationship, Alaska Natives have steadfastly answered a call to duty when the United States called during a conflict or an act of war. Alaska Natives did so in disproportionately high numbers during the Vietnam conflict. Those who answered the call during the entire Vietnam conflict should not be penalized for their service to their country.

My proposed legislation will correct those inequities imposed by the last Administration in allowing all of the Alaska Native Vietnam veterans to apply for their Native allotment under the Native Allotment Act. I urge America's support of this legislation and of the Alaska Native Vietnam veterans who bravely served this great country during the Vietnam conflict. Fulfill our promise to all Alaska Native Vietnam veterans and allow them to obtain their Native allotment under the Native Allotment Act.

IMPORTANCE OF BINATIONAL HEALTH WEEK

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I come before the House today to highlight the importance of Binational Health Week, BHW, as proclaimed by the Fresno California County Board of Supervisors. Binational Health Week takes place this week, October 12-19, and it marks the beginning of the California-Mexico Health Initiative (CMHI) action plan. The CMHI is a cooperative working group between a number of local organizations in the Central Valley, and it works as a cultural bridge between migrants' health needs and available health care services in selected Mexican states as well as selected regions of California.

The Binational Health Week promotes and reinforces healthy behavior among migrant families. It will reinforce California's vaccination campaigns by specifically targeting migrant families, and reinforce Mexican vaccination efforts. BHW will promote flu vaccination among high-risk migrant adults and provide migrant families with information on health resources and services available in selected counties in California. Finally, healthcare providers will be given an updated directory containing information on migrant health resources in California and Mexico and disseminate current research on migrant health issues by promoting bilateral collaboration among researchers, health care providers and administrators to address service gaps and unmet needs.

This first Binational Health Week in California is conceived as a demonstration project to improve health care for migrants and will serve as the basis for future bilateral efforts. I certainly extend my support for Binational

Health Week in California and urge members to become familiar of the cutting edge bilateral working group, the California-Mexico Health Initiative.

DOUGLAS H. PIERSON, RHODE ISLAND'S PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Douglas Pierson, principal of North Kingstown's Hamilton Elementary School who was recently named a National Distinguished Principal by the U.S. Department of Education and the National Association of Elementary School Principals.

Mr. Pierson was selected for this honor for his outstanding leadership, and inter-personal and management skills. Throughout his tenure at Hamilton Elementary, Mr. Pierson has created a trusting environment where students, teachers, staff, and parents are encouraged to reflect, learn from their mistakes, and be thoughtful and creative about every aspect of their educational experience.

While Federal officials are just beginning to fully recognize the value of continuous learning for teachers and staff, Mr. Pierson has been encouraging it among his faculty for years. By modeling teaching strategies and disseminating research on innovative education practices, Mr. Pierson has improved instruction for each and every student at Hamilton. It was Mr. Pierson's leadership that led Hamilton Elementary to conduct a study of its effectiveness, and it is his guidance that allows time for each teacher to consider his or her instructional methods in light of the study's conclusions.

In addition to being an outstanding administrator, Mr. Pierson is an extraordinary teacher. From playing the ukulele to demonstrating mime to first-graders to dressing up as "Zero the Hero," complete with tights, a cape and hood, Mr. Pierson shows that he values students above all else.

Mr. Pierson was selected for this honor from among nominees of schools all over the State. U.S. Education Secretary Rod Paige will recognize him at a ceremony here in Washington on October 19. I am very much looking forward to welcoming Mr. Pierson to our Nation's Capitol and congratulating him on this impressive honor in person.

Mr. Speaker, we all know the immense challenges associated with true leadership. True leadership inspires people to be their best, to collaborate, and to work together toward long-term and often intangible goals. Mr. Douglas Pierson consistently displays true leadership, and, on behalf of the Second Congressional District of Rhode Island, I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you for his efforts.

HONORING THE BUCKS COUNTY HOUSING GROUP AND BUCKS COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE (BCCC) STUDENTS IN FREE ENTERPRISE FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT OF WHEELZ 2 WORK PROGRAM FOR HOUSING CLIENTS

HON. JAMES C. GREENWOOD

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. GREENWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the Bucks County Housing Group and the Bucks County Community College Students in Free Enterprise for the remarkable achievements of the Wheelz 2 Work Program. This innovative program provides donated cars to clients receiving services through the Bucks County's Homeless Assistance Program.

As many of you are well aware, reliable transportation is critical to clients pursuing education, training, and employment as a means of securing self-sufficiency and permanent housing. The Wheelz 2 Work Program fills this need in addition to providing the community a tangible opportunity to be involved in a family's success. The program helps establish a long-term solution by providing a key element that allows people to maintain employment and/or advance in education.

Of significant achievement is the donation of the program's 100th car this October 2001. Nancy Lawrence of Pipersville is donating her 1985 Honda Accord to Housing Group client Michelle Heintz. Ms. Heintz, a single mother with a 3-year-old child, recently graduated from a medical assistant training program. Thanks to the highly successful Wheelz 2 Work Program, Ms. Heintz will now have a reliable way to get to work.

Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) is a non-profit organization that gives students the tools to learn the free enterprise system in a real working situation. SIFE challenges students on more than 700 college campuses worldwide to take what their learning in the classroom and use this knowledge to better local communities. Bucks County Community College SIFE students launched the Wheelz 2 Work in 1995 as an integral part of its community outreach activities. These students have brought extraordinary energy and leadership to the partnership with the Bucks County Housing Group on behalf of the agency's housing clients.

The Bucks County Housing Group is a private, nonprofit social service agency that provides comprehensive continuum of housing programs for homeless and low-income families throughout Bucks County. Founded in 1979 in response to the increase in the number of homeless families in the county, the Housing Group has worked cooperatively with both the public and private sectors to develop and expand essential services. At present, the Housing Group operates four homeless shelters, two transitional housing programs, a food pantry program and owns and operates three apartment complexes. In addition, the agency offers a First-time Homebuyers' Program and a Homeowners' Emergency Mortgage Assistance Program.

The Bucks County Housing Group and the BCCC Students in Free Enterprise have substantially improved the quality of life for 100

families in their county through their exemplary collaborative efforts. They will continue their important effort to reach out to many others. For this I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring these two organizations for outstanding service to the community.

HONORING BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL RECIPIENTS

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to recognize that seven blue ribbon schools in my 51st Congressional District of California are being honored as National Blue Ribbon Schools for 2001.

In alphabetical order, these schools are:

Chaparral Elementary School, Poway, CA. The principal is Holly Brommer, and the superintendent of the Poway Unified School District is Donald Phillips.

Del Mar Hills School, Del Mar, CA. The principal is Gary Wilson, and the superintendent of the Del Mar Union School District is Thomas Bishop.

Los Penasquitos School, San Diego, CA. The principal is Jeffrey King, and the superintendent of the Poway Unified School District is Donald Phillips.

Olivenhain Pioneer Elementary School, Carlsbad, CA. The principal is Emily Andrade, and the superintendent of the Encinitas Union School District is Doug DeVore.

Park Village Elementary School, San Diego, CA. The principal is Kathy Cleveland, and the superintendent of the Poway Unified School District is Donald Phillips.

Solana Highlands School, San Diego, CA. The principal is Brian McBride, and the superintendent of the Solana Beach School District is Ellie Topolovac.

Westwood Elementary School, San Diego, CA. The principal is Suzanne Roy, and the superintendent of the Poway Unified School District is Donald Phillips.

The National Blue Ribbon Schools program evaluates schools based upon their effectiveness in meeting local, state and national educational goals. In 2001, 264 elementary schools are being recognized as National Blue Ribbon Schools, including the seven above in California's 51st Congressional District, and 43 in the State of California. Blue Ribbon status is awarded to schools that have strong leadership, clear vision and mission, excellent teaching and curriculum, policies and practices that keep the schools safe for learning, expanded involvement of families, evidence that the school helps all students achieve high standards, and a commitment to share best practices with other schools.

I am immensely proud of the men and women whose outstanding and tireless work in the interest of better education has now been recognized through the National Blue Ribbon Schools program. This is particularly close to my heart, because, as a former teacher and coach, and as a father, one of my passions is improving education so that every American can have a fighting chance to achieve the American dream.

And while these seven schools in my district have now been recognized as National Blue

Ribbon Schools, the real winners are all of the children, parents, teachers and citizens who have all been challenged through this recognition to successfully improve education in all of their local communities.

PATRIOT ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2001

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, on September 11, 2001 our national tranquility was shattered by terrorists dedicated to violence at a scale we have not seen before. All of us watched in horror as airplanes were used as weapons of mass murder.

Following the attacks, the administration warned us that the terrorists operated within the United States. The Attorney General came to Congress and asked for broad powers to rout out the terrorists who may remain among us.

Fear has crept over our nation. Many Americans across the nation look with suspicion at their Muslim and Arab neighbors. People refuse to touch letters from far away countries. Passengers are denied access to planes because they have last names that sound Arabic. Mosques and businesses owned by Arab Americans have been attacked by vandals. Some Arab Americans have tragically lost their lives in acts of racial hatred.

As legislators, we need to ensure that any measure designed to strengthen federal investigative powers do not go too far. We must not let fear entice us to toss away the civil liberties that are the centerpiece of our democratic society.

I agree that America must pursue the villains who conspired to kill innocent Americans and to bring our country to a grinding halt. But we must not violate constitutional principles in our search for the conspirators.

The measures included in the USA Act go too far. We tossed away the bipartisan compromise painstakingly passed unanimously by the House Judiciary Committee. We were denied legislative due process. The Committee decision was trashed.

H.R. 2975 allows law enforcement agencies to wiretap and monitor Internet use whenever intelligence gathering constitutes a "significant purpose" of the surveillance. We should not expose citizens to invasions of privacy under vague phrases such as "significant purpose."

The bill H.R. 2975 does not include adequate safeguards to prevent the government from monitoring the communications of innocent people. Citizens may be monitored simply by using a pay phone frequented by terrorists. People may have the shadow of suspicion cast over them by calling a suspected terrorist. Guilt by association will take us back to the dark days of the baseless inflammatory accusations made by the House Un-American Activities Committee.

H.R. 2975 gives the Immigration and Naturalization Service unchecked ability to detain aliens for up to seven days without charges. If the Attorney General continues to detain an individual after seven days, the bill limits the suspect's ability to appeal their detention.

We do not need to expand existing powers the government has used to detain 698 people

during its terrorist investigations. At least 165 people have been held for violating immigration laws and can be detained indefinitely if the government begins deportation proceedings. The government does not even need to prove that they are suspects. Many are detained merely because they are material witnesses.

The bill H.R. 2975 allows grand jury and other sensitive information to be shared with other agencies. It will allow law enforcement and intelligence agencies to share information without a court order. Absent judicial oversight, a key element that prevents significant abuses of power by our law enforcement agencies is removed.

Under H.R. 2975, the government will define "federal terrorism offense" as the intent to influence or affect the conduct of government by intimidation or coercion, or to retaliate against government conduct. This unclear definition may include groups such as Green Peace along with the terrorists.

These measures will take us back to the time when the FBI and CIA investigated citizens such as Martin Luther King and his associates simply because they were deemed a threat to the nation.

Does anyone want to live in a country where you must hide your thoughts and avoid associations for fear of becoming tainted as a terrorist sympathizer?

We must not allow the terrorists to scare us into destroying our cherished values and rights.

I urge my colleagues to listen to the voices of moderation and reason. Do not toss away our sacred civil liberties.

Vote "No" on H.R. 2975 to protect the constitutional principles that have protected the citizens of this nation for more than 200 years.

PATRIOT ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2001

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to vehemently oppose H.R. 3081, the Anti-Terrorism bill. In this time of national emergency, Congress must work to provide law enforcement with the necessary capabilities to fight terrorists in the 21st century. However, Congress must also remember that we are dealing with very precious civil liberties that we must not trample.

Today, Congress is considering greatly expanding the power of the federal government to access information and listen to the conversations of people in the United States. We are considering providing greater authority for law enforcement to tap phone lines, to track email and internet addresses, and to swap sensitive information. Issues with this magnitude require cautious consideration with ample time to ponder the consequences.

After careful deliberation, House Judiciary Committee on October 11, 2001 passed H.R. 2975, the "Provide Appropriate Tools Required to Implement and Obstruct Terrorism (PATRIOT) Act." In fact, the committee recognized the importance of the subject matter and the potential consequences of the bill and passed H.R. 2975 unanimously. This bill en-

joyed broad bipartisan support from the Judiciary Committee and members of the full House.

However, in an end run around bipartisanship and the committee process, the House majority leadership brought a different and controversial bill to the floor without allowing time for committee consideration and without even giving Members time to figure out what the bill does. Actually, this new bill was being written at the same time that the House was supposed to be debating the bipartisan PATRIOT Act.

The new 187-page bill contained some very distressing provisions. Under current law, search warrants must include very specific information including what is to be searched, who must cooperate, and who is the target of the search. A provision in the new bill would allow federal investigators to obtain search warrants without specifically naming each person who is involved. Another provision would allow federal authorities to obtain information like credit card numbers and bank account numbers with a subpoena, not a court order, as is the case under current law. Also, many of the provisions that expand the government's search and surveillance powers would not allow Congress to review the new powers until 2006.

Yet, instead of bringing up a bipartisan bill that has worked its way through the committee process, the House Majority hastily brought a very large and complicated bill to the floor that could have serious consequences for the liberties of the American public. Congress must update its anti-terrorism laws for the 21st century, however, we must not sacrifice our civil liberties in a rush to vote on potentially dangerous legislation that has not been adequately reviewed by lawmakers.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LITHUANIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 50th anniversary of the Lithuanian American Community, Inc. on this great day, the 12th of October, 2001.

The Lithuanian American Community celebrates Lithuanian heritage and provides educational, cultural, and social services to its membership. Founded in 1951, LAC, Inc. has kept Lithuanian heritage and religious traditions alive in America through its network of Lithuanian Heritage and Language Schools, which provide classes to Lithuanian Americans of all ages.

In the United States today, there are approximately 800,000 people of Lithuanian descent. LAC, Inc. offers a variety of services to Lithuanian Americans. The Human Services Council of the Lithuanian American Community provides legal aid, medical assistance, and other services to Lithuanian Americans across the country.

This organization educates the general public about Lithuanian heritage and seeks to spread their rich culture. The Lithuanian American Community sponsors events such as folk dances, art and science symposiums, and theater festivals.

The Lithuanian American Community has long remained focused on sharing their cultural history through events open to the public, and educating other citizens of their rich and deep culture. They have done an excellent job of supporting cultural interaction between the United States and Lithuania.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the 50th anniversary of the Lithuanian American Community, a great organization that has provided support for Lithuanian Americans, and enriched Cleveland with the contribution of their culture and heritage.

TRIBUTE TO HON. ROBERT A. CONTIGUGLIA

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who has dedicated his life to serving our nation, the 25th District of New York, Cayuga County, and the city of Auburn. From the day he enlisted in the U.S. Army, until today, as he steps down as Judge of Cayuga County Surrogate Court, he has exemplified nothing but dedication to our country and local community. I am honored to congratulate and thank the Honorable Robert A. Contiguglia for his ongoing support and devotion to our community.

Throughout his distinguished career, Judge Contiguglia has embraced several leadership roles with spirit and loyalty. He has served as Chairman of the city of Auburn Zoning Board, Cayuga County Supervisor, Chairman of Cayuga County Legislature, Assistant United States Attorney for the Northern District of New York, and Assistant Attorney General for the State of New York. He has been an attorney for 45 years and practiced law with his father Anthony J. and brother Louis.

Today we celebrate Judge Contiguglia's lifetime of achievements to express our gratitude for his 23 years of service on the Cayuga County Surrogate Court bench. On behalf of the people of the 25th District of New York, I am honored to congratulate Judge Contiguglia for his well-deserved retirement from public life, and thank him for his years of service to Central New York. We wish him and his family the very best.

THE MENTAL HEALTH COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP ACT

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, Sonoma County, which I represent, as well as Stanislaus County in California, currently face a potential crisis in their mental health communities. In order for these County staffed inpatient psychiatric units to keep their Medicare provider status, under last year's HCFA rule, the hospitals would have to take over employment of County health care workers who currently provide the psychiatric care. Today I am introducing legislation that will enable the hospitals to keep their Medicare provider status

while allowing the health care workers to remain County employees. This is an avenue the counties and hospitals currently don't have under the HCFA rules. Under my bill, everyone wins: County employees keep their job status, the hospitals retain their Medicare provider status, and Medicare patients will continue to receive the high quality treatment that they deserve.

This predicament began when the agency formerly known as the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) issued the Provider-Based Rules (PBR) as part of the "Outpatient Prospective Payment System" final rule last year. The regulations were issued in an attempt to curb abuses and manipulation in the Medicare reimbursement system. However, it created an unintended consequence for my constituents.

The concept behind the PBR was to regulate hospital acquisitions of off-site physicians' offices to ensure these outpatient sites were sufficiently integrated with a hospital in order to receive the higher cost-based reimbursement available only to hospitals. HCFA's rule also stated that this applied to inpatient services. In effect, the PBR prohibits management companies from employing the health care workers who provide the care at its inpatient hospital units. While this may seem reasonable on the surface, this employment requirement presents a serious problem that HCFA did not intend when it issued the PBR. In the case of Sonoma and Stanislaus counties, the counties employ both the management staff and the health care workers at local Sutter hospitals' inpatient psychiatric units. In my district, Sonoma County currently manages and employs the staff at the former Oakerest psychiatric unit (now the "Norton Center") through a contract with Sutter Medical Center of Santa Rosa. Preserving this management contract arrangement between Sutter and the County is critical because current County health care workers have the necessary expertise to deliver this specialized type of care to patients. My bill will allow this type of public-private management contract arrangement to continue without threatening a hospital's Medicare provider status.

In accordance with the PBR, the Norton Center can meet the seven requirements that demonstrate it is an integrated part of the Hospital. However, it cannot meet HCFA's additional requirements for entities operating through management contracts. Unless it can comply with all the regulations, the Norton Center will not receive any reimbursement under the Medicare and Medicaid programs. If the Norton Center has to forfeit its role as a Medicare and Medicaid provider, it may have to stop providing services altogether since it serves a high percentage of Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries. HCFA's recommendation is that entities in violation of the management contract requirements just employ the County health care workers directly. This is not a realistic remedy for Sonoma County because it would result in the termination of approximately 60 County employees. That's why I am pleased to offer the "Mental Health Community Partnership Act," because I agree that the regulations were never intended to eliminate this form of public-private management contract arrangements or threaten access to essential health care services. Specifically, this bill allows a hospital to contract with a public entity to provide inpatient psychiatric

services, if the health facility is operated or managed by a state or local government. It's a win-win for everyone because it preserves the rule's original goal to curb Medicare abuse, the Norton Center will keep its Medicare provider status, County workers will keep their job status, and Medicare and Medicaid patients will continue to enjoy access to inpatient psychiatric services. Congress should take this opportunity to protect quality jobs and provide access to comprehensive health care for our most needy.

HONORING JERRY POOLE ON HIS RECEPTION OF THE DOROTHY RICHARDSON AWARD FOR RESIDENT LEADERSHIP

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding member of the New Haven, Connecticut community and my dear friend, Jerry Poole. Jerry was recently honored here in Washington by the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation with the Dorothy Richardson Award for Resident Leadership.

Dorothy Richardson emerged as a community resident leader in the mid-1960s in response to an urban renewal effort that threatened her neighborhood. Her diligent work with lenders city officials, foundation heads, community organizers, and her neighbors served as the vehicle to improve her neighborhood's housing stock. She later founded the first Neighborhood Housing Service in Pittsburgh and served as a model for the development of NHS partnerships across the nation. Each year the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation honors individuals who reflect the character and spirit of Dorothy Richardson. Jerry is one of only nine selected from thousands of volunteers in the 1,800 communities across the country served by the NeighborWorks network of nonprofit organizations for this prestigious national recognition.

Jerry has been the Executive Director of New Haven's Opportunities Industrialization Centers of America for the last fifteen years. He has dedicated his professional career to ensuring that the unemployed find work. His incredible dedication has opened up employment opportunities for thousands throughout Greater New Haven. In addition to his professional career, Jerry has spent innumerable hours working with his neighbors and community leaders to change the face of the West River neighborhood—giving residents a renewed sense of pride and hope in this community.

A dynamic neighborhood leader, Jerry's vision and tenacity has not only made a real difference in the West River Neighborhood but across the State of Connecticut. It was only eight short years ago that he joined the West River Neighborhood Association, a group of residents dedicated to improving their community. When they first started, the Association was a group of neighbors who met regularly at each others homes and never had much more than one hundred dollars in their checking account. Based on Jerry's simple belief that residents should give ten percent of their time to

their neighbors, the group developed a strategic plan that is now coming to fruition. Under his leadership, the West River Neighborhood Association focused their attention on an ambitious plan. Partnering with the City of New Haven and the Mutual Housing Association of Southern Connecticut, the group worked hard on plans for the West River Memorial Park and to rehabilitate housing along George Street—a section of their neighborhood that had lacked attention for years. I had the opportunity to work closely with Jerry and his group to bring federal funding to the West River Memorial Park project and earlier this year, the West River neighborhood Association joined Mutual housing in breaking ground on a \$1.3 million rehabilitation project on blighted properties.

The commitment and dedication Jerry has shown to our community and to the State of Connecticut is unquestionable. His advocacy and strong voice have gone a long way in enriching the lives of his neighbors and their families. I am honored to stand today to join with his wife, Joyce, daughter, Summerleigh, family, friends, and the New Haven community in congratulating Jerry Poole on this very special occasion.

HONORING KAREN MATHEWS' RETIREMENT

HON. GARY A. CONDIT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. CONDIT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Karen Mathews on the occasion of her retirement.

First elected Stanislaus County Clerk-Recorder in 1990, her retirement on September 30, 2001, capped a 17-year career of dedicated public service. Perhaps most compelling is the price she paid for that public service.

In 1994, tax protesters assaulted Karen in her home because of her refusal to file fraudulent tax liens against local officials. Earlier, she had been subjected to repeated threats of violence but not once, for one moment, did she succumb to these threats.

Nine people were subsequently indicted by a federal grand jury, tried, and on May 1, 1997, convicted of conspiracy and obstruction of the Internal Revenue Service, assault on an elected official and federal racketeering. This trial signified the first prosecution of a sexual assault on an elected official by an anti-government splinter group. Sentencing ranged from six months in-home detention, to approximately seven years in federal prison. On November 10, 1997, Roger Steiner, the assailant, was convicted and sentenced to 21 years, 10 months in federal prison.

Karen is the chairwoman of a special committee formed by the California State Recorder's Association to develop legislation to protect recorders dealing with threatening anti-government criminal extremists. Karen was instrumental in the passage of legislation, resulting in two California laws; one to protect public officials from general threats and harassment; and the other to expedite court resolution of frivolous documents.

She has testified twice before congressional committees regarding domestic terrorism. She is now working to pass federal legislation protecting victims from frivolous lawsuits brought

by inmates. Over the past three years she has been featured on NBC Dateline, periodicals such as *People*, *The New York Times*, *Klanwatch*, and a soon to be published article in *The Ladies Home Journal*. With this exposure, she hopes to help educate America on the danger and cowardice of anti-government extremists.

I want to commend and recognize Karen Mathews for her courage and outstanding service and dedication to the citizens of Stanislaus County. It is a privilege to call her my friend and I ask my colleagues to rise and join me in honoring her as she retires from public life.

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to emphasize the importance of Hispanic Heritage Month, September 15th–October 15th. A culture that began over 500 years ago as a fusion between Spanish and indigenous societies across the Americas, the Hispanic community has helped forge our Nation's identity and today the Latino population is the largest minority group in the United States. The Hispanic community enriches the ethnic diversity that makes our Nation unique, contributing greatly to the cultural, artistic, economic and political life of this country.

Like many other immigrants who came to this country in pursuit of the American dream, Hispanics have struggled to overcome adversity, fighting stereotypes and discrimination. This battle has not been easy and I salute all those that have worked to advance the prosperity of our Latino population. While this fight is far from over, we can see the results of our efforts throughout the Country, beginning with our Congress. Today, I am joined by a constantly growing number of Hispanic colleagues, each with a strong work ethic and committed to public service and the preservation of our democracy.

At home in New York City, I am proud to represent a district that reflects a cultural mosaic of Hispanic groups such as people of Puerto Rican, Dominican, Mexican and Cuban heritage. The influence of Latin culture is seen throughout the streets of Upper Manhattan from Washington Heights to El Barrio. It is an essential part of the cultural Mecca that defines the 15th congressional district and I am honored to speak for one of the Nation's most distinct groups.

More than our fellow citizens, Latinos are our brothers and sisters. I would like to honor and thank the entire Hispanic community its contributions to the past, present, and future of the United States.

IN HONOR OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PARISH CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF GRACE

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the 150th Anniversary

of Our Lady of Grace Church. This church has served the community of Hoboken, New Jersey for many generations. The church will celebrate its anniversary on Saturday, October 20, 2001, at the Casino-In-The-Park Restaurant in Jersey City, New Jersey.

Our Lady of Grace Church is one of the largest Roman Catholic Churches in New Jersey. It was founded in 1851. Today, Our Lady of Grace Church stands as the focal point of Hoboken's Church Square Park. Its cornerstone was laid in 1875, construction of this grand edifice was completed in 1878 and dedicated by Bishop Corrigan.

Francis G. Himpler, a well-known 19th Century architect, designed this grand gothic structure. After the church dedication in 1878, members of the Italian and French royal families donated ceremonial works of art to decorate this magnificent dwelling.

This Church is well known for its kindness, charity, and for its involvement in the parish. Our Lady of Grace Church stands poised to continue to make invaluable contributions to the ongoing success of the Hoboken community.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Our Lady of Grace Church on its 150th Anniversary.

REMARKS OF SECRETARY OF DEFENSE DONALD RUMSFELD

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to share with the Members of the House the excellent remarks of Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld yesterday at the Memorial Service in Remembrance of Those Lost on September 11th. The fine statement is set forth as follows:

We are gathered here because of what happened here on September 11th. Events that bring to mind tragedy—but also our gratitude to those who came to assist that day and afterwards, those we saw at the Pentagon site everyday—the guards, police, fire and rescue workers, the Defense Protective service, hospitals, Red Cross, family center professionals and volunteers and many others.

And yet our reason for being here today is something else.

We are gathered here to remember, to console and to pray.

To remember comrades and colleagues, friends and family members—those lost to us on Sept. 11th.

We remember them as heroes. And we are right to do so. They died because—in words of justification offered by their attackers—they were Americans. They died, then, because of how they lived—as free men and women, proud of their freedom, proud of their country and proud of their country's cause—the cause of human freedom.

And they died for another reason—the simple fact they worked here in this building—the Pentagon.

It is seen as a place of power, the locus of command for what has been called the greatest accumulation of military might in history. And yet a might used far differently than the long course of history has usually known.

In the last century, this building existed to oppose two totalitarian regimes that sought

to oppress and to rule other nations. And it is no exaggeration of historical judgment to say that without this building, and those who worked here, those two regimes would not have been stopped or thwarted in their oppression of countless millions.

But just as those regimes sought to rule and oppress, others in this century seek to do the same by corrupting a noble religion. Our President has been right to see the similarity—and to say that the fault, the evil is the same. It is the will to power, the urge to dominion over others, to the point of oppressing them, even to taking thousands of innocent lives—or more. And that this oppression makes the terrorist a believer—not in the theology of God, but the theology of self—and in the whispered words of temptation: "Ye shall be as Gods."

In targeting this place, then, and those who worked here, the attackers, the evildoers correctly sensed that the opposite of all they were, and stood for, resided here.

Those who worked here—those who on Sept. 11 died here—whether civilians or in uniform,—side by side they sought not to rule, but to serve. They sought not to oppress, but to liberate. They worked not to take lives, but to protect them. And they tried not to preempt God, but see to it His creatures lived as He intended—in the light and dignity of human freedom.

Our first task then is to remember the fallen as they were—as they would have wanted to be remembered—living in freedom, blessed by it, proud of it and willing—like so many others before them, and like so many today, to die for it.

And to remember them as believers in the heroic ideal for which this nation stands and for which this building exists—the ideal of service to country and to others.

Beyond all this, their deaths remind us of a new kind of evil, the evil of a threat and menace to which this nation and the world has now fully awakened, because of them.

In causing this awakening, then, the terrorists have assured their own destruction. And those we mourn today, have, in the moment of their death, assured their own triumph over hate and fear. For out of this act of terror—and the awakening it brings—here and across the globe—will surely come a victory over terrorism. A victory that one day may save millions from the harm of weapons of mass destruction. And this victory—their victory—we pledge today.

But if we gather here to remember them—we are also here to console those who shared their lives, those who loved them. And yet, the irony is that those whom we have come to console have given us the best of all consolations, by reminding us not only of the meaning of the deaths, but of the lives of their loved ones.

"He was a hero long before the eleventh of September," said a friend of one of those we have lost—"a hero every single day, a hero to his family, to his friends and to his professional peers."

A veteran of the Gulf War—hardworking, who showed up at the Pentagon at 3:30 in the morning, and then headed home in the afternoon to be with his children—all of whom he loved dearly, but one of whom he gave very special care, because she needs very special care and love.

About him and those who served with him, his wife said: "It's not just when a plane hits their building. They are heroes every day."

"Heroes every day." We are here to affirm that. And to do this on behalf of America.

And also to say to those who mourn, who have lost loved ones: Know that the heart of America is here today, and that it speaks to each one of you words of sympathy, consolation, compassion and love. All the love that the heart of America—and a great heart it is—can muster.

Watching and listening today, Americans everywhere are saying: I wish I could be there to tell them how sorry we are, how much we grieve for them. And to tell them too, how thankful we are for those they loved, and that we will remember them, and recall always the meaning of their deaths and their lives.

A Marine chaplain, in trying to explain why there could be no human explanation for a tragedy such as this, said once: "You would think it would break the heart of God."

We stand today in the midst of tragedy—the mystery of tragedy. Yet a mystery that is part of that larger awe and wonder that causes us to bow our heads in faith and say of those we mourn, those we have lost, the words of scripture: "Lord now let Thy servants go in peace, Thy word has been fulfilled."

To the families and friends of our fallen colleagues and comrades we extend today our deepest sympathy and condolences—and those of the American people.

We pray that God will give some share of the peace that now belongs to those we lost, to those who knew and loved them in this life.

But as we grieve together we are also thankful—thankful for their lives, thankful for the time we had with them. And proud too—as proud as they were—that they lived their lives as Americans.

We are mindful too—and resolute that their deaths, like their lives, shall have meaning. And that the birthright of human freedom—a birthright that was theirs as Americans and for which they died—will always be ours and our children's. And through our efforts and example, one day, the birthright of every man, woman, and child on earth.

CONGRATULATIONS TO AZERBAIJAN

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I would like to present my most sincere congratulations to President Aliyev on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the restoration of Azerbaijan's independence. The past several years have proven your nation's commitment to democracy, and I encourage you to continue your efforts aimed at strengthening Azerbaijan's independence, territorial integrity, and sovereignty. We, in the U.S. Congress, appreciate Azerbaijan's friendship and support, especially in these times of the international campaign against terrorism. Please, accept, Mr. President, my best wishes to yourself and the Azerbaijani people on this anniversary.

RURAL EXEMPTION ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2001

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the "Rural Exemption Enhancement Act of 2001" (REEA). This modest proposal would ensure greater regulatory cer-

tainty for many of our nation's rural telephone companies as they continue their efforts to bring quality and affordable advanced telecommunications services to our communities. I am pleased that this legislation has been endorsed by the Organization for the Promotion and Advancement of Small Telecommunications Companies as well as Sierra Telephone Company in my home district.

More than five years ago, Congress passed comprehensive legislation to reform our nation's telecommunications laws—the Telecommunications Act of 1996. In crafting this legislation, Congress wisely included provisions which exempt rural telephone companies from the collocation, unbundling and resale obligations imposed upon incumbent local exchange carriers. Congress understood that these obligations would not serve the best interests of rural consumers and would deter investment in high-cost areas that are already challenging to serve due to a lack of economies of scale.

Mr. Speaker, it is important to note that the rural exemption accorded to rural telephone companies is not permanent and can be lifted by a State commission. Under section 251(f) of the Telecommunications Act, a new entrant may make a bona fide request to a State commission to lift a rural ILEC's exemption. Following a 120 day evaluation of the request, a State commission may lift the exemption if the request from the competing carrier is not found to be unduly economically burdensome, is technically feasible, and is consistent with the universal service provisions of the Act.

I am very concerned, however, that the lifting of a rural telephone company exemption by a State commission currently applies to both voice grade and advanced services. The current process for evaluating a petition to lift a rural exemption provides disincentive for small, rural carriers to make costly investment in advanced telecommunications service infrastructure. For these reasons, I am introducing the "Rural Exemption Enhancement Act."

My legislation should not in any way be interpreted to be a competing proposal to H.R. 1542, the "Internet Freedom and Broadband Deployment Act of 2001" passed by the House Energy and Commerce Committee. I am proud to be a cosponsor and active supporter of that proposal. The bill that I am introducing today would simply make it clear that a request to lift the voice grade exemption should be made and evaluated separately from the advanced services exemption.

Mr. Speaker, this Congress and the President will spend the remainder of this session developing legislation that is vital to our nation's economy and national security. I look forward to working with my colleagues to move this legislation forward next year before the 107th Congress adjourns sine die.

IN HONOR OF CELIA CRUZ, RECIPIENT OF THE JAMES SMITHSON BICENTENNIAL MEDAL

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to musical legend Celia Cruz. On Tuesday, October 16, 2001,

Ms. Cruz will be awarded the James Smithson Bicentennial Medal for her distinguished musical career and invaluable contributions to our nation's cultural heritage. The award ceremony will take place at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC.

Celia Cruz was born and raised in the Santa Suárez neighborhood of Havana, Cuba. As a young girl, she spent much of her spare time entertaining her peers, friends, and neighbors by singing lullabies and melodies. In the 1940's, she officially began her musical career by singing on numerous Cuban radio programs. She expanded her musical aptitude by studying at Havana's Conservatory of Music from 1947 to 1950.

In 1950, Celia Cruz gained international acclaim by becoming the lead singer for Cuba's top dance band, La Sonora Matancera. For over fifteen years, La Sonora Matancera electrified sold-out audiences with their vibrant and catchy Afro-Cuban melodies and rhythms.

Throughout much of her career, Celia Cruz has been hailed as the "Queen of Salsa" due to her energetic and animated musical performances. Cruz, a Grammy Award winner and Latina musical icon, has enjoyed a dynamic career that has spanned over five decades, recorded countless albums, and has often performed with musical great Tito Puente.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Celia Cruz, for her immeasurable contributions throughout her illustrious career. The James Smithson, Bicentennial Medal could not have been awarded to a more deserving human being—Celia Cruz, a living legend, who continues to inspire the world.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE FAIR TAX TREATMENT FOR INSURANCE AGENTS' TERMINATION PAYMENTS ACT OF 2001

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in order to introduce a small business tax relief measure that will assist thousands of insurance agents throughout this country as they prepare for retirement.

Many exclusive insurance agents who leave or retire from their jobs receive what is known as a "termination payment" under a contractual agreement with their respective insurance companies. These payments are paid for intangible assets, including the agent's "book of business" and goodwill, and are usually spread out over a series of years.

Currently, there is confusion about the tax treatment of these termination payments, which has caused some IRS field agents to question the capital gains treatment of these payments. My bill, the "Fair Tax Treatment for Insurance Agents' Termination Payments Act of 2000," will make it clear that these termination payments are for the sale or other disposition of intangible capital assets and therefore should be subject to capital gains treatment. A clarification of current law is needed to ensure the correct result and prevent unknowing IRS agents from subjecting innocent insurance agents around the country to attack and audit on an issue that has no basis for controversy.

I urge my colleagues to support my bill and work with me to clarify the law to ensure that insurance agent "termination payments" are subject to capital gains treatment for Federal income tax purposes.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN M. McHUGH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. McHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I was called away from Washington on the evening of October 11th to attend to an ill family member. Due to my absence that evening and on Friday, October 12, I missed votes on the floor of the House of Representatives, including the vote on H.R. 2975, the Provide Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism (PATRIOT) Act. Had I been present, I would have voted in support of the legislation and its worthy objective of providing law enforcement officials with additional tools to detect, apprehend, and prosecute terrorists.

The horrific events of September 11th have demonstrated that more needs to be done to protect Americans from terrorism. At the same time, my colleagues and I are quite cognizant of our responsibilities in safeguarding the fundamental constitutional rights of the American people. The PATRIOT Act recognizes these concerns and strikes a balance between security enhancements and tools for law enforcement and civil liberties.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL JOHN D. HAVENS

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this means to congratulate and pay tribute to General John Havens, who recently retired as the Adjutant General of the Missouri National Guard. He has distinguished himself, the Missouri National Guard, and our nation with dedicated service.

General Havens began his military career as an ROTC cadet at the Missouri School of Mines, now the University of Missouri-Rolla. Upon graduation, he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant and attended the Army's engineer school at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. Next, General Havens served as a Platoon Leader and Engineer Supply Officer in France and Assistant S4 at Fort Ord, California. General Havens was then released from active duty in 1963.

General Havens' distinguished career with the Missouri National Guard began in 1963 as a Platoon Leader in Rolla, Missouri. He held the same position in Fredericktown, Missouri, and Salem, Missouri, before serving as a Maintenance Officer at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri. General Havens continued to serve at Jefferson Barracks for 11 years, serving as Assistant Operations Officer, Construction Engineer, Engineer Plans Officer, and Facility Engineer. The next position General Havens held was Chief Facility Engineer at Nevada, Missouri, and was then promoted to Com-

mander, Camp Clark Training Site in Nevada. General Havens then served as Director of Facilities at the Missouri National Guard Headquarters.

In July of 1993, General Havens was appointed Assistant Adjutant General, Army, of the Missouri National Guard. He served in this position until 1997 when he was appointed, by Governor Mel Carnahan, Adjutant General of the Missouri National Guard. As the Adjutant General, he was responsible to the Governor for the command and control of 10,000 Missouri Army and Air National Guard personnel. He was also responsible to the Governor for the State Emergency Management Agency and the Civil Air Patrol.

Mr. Speaker, General Havens has had an impressive career in the military. As he prepares for this next stage in his life, I am certain that my colleagues will join me in wishing General Havens all the best. We thank him for his 40 years of service to the United States of America.

INDIA FIRING ON KASHMIR OPPORTUNITY TO BRING FREEDOM TO SOUTH ASIA

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, last year when former President Clinton visited India, 35 Sikhs were massacred in the village of Chithisinghpora. Two independent investigations have shown that the Indian government carried out this massacre. Now Secretary of State Powell is visiting India and Indian troops are firing on Kashmir. I can't help but wonder why the sudden outbreak. It seems odd these incidents occur when American officials visit the country.

Mr. Speaker, this could be an opportunity for the people and nations seeking freedom in South Asia. The Council of Khalistan has put out an open letter saying that now is the ideal time for the people of Kashmir, Khalistan, Nagaland, and the other minority nations of South Asia to claim their freedom.

Clearly, India is taking advantage of the U.S. war on terrorism to advance its own hegemonic agenda. The fact that Sikhs, Kashmiri Muslims, and other minorities are going to be casualties of this strategy is apparently of no importance to them. It's just another opportunity to take down their enemy, Pakistan, which has been an active supporter and participant in the U.S. antiterrorist coalition.

America was founded on the idea of freedom. It is that freedom that the terrorists are trying to destroy. One of the best ways to fight the terrorists is to help spread freedom to new corners of the world.

Mr. Speaker, the time has come to cut off U.S. aid to India in light of its human-rights abuses and its opportunistic use of the antiterrorist effort to promote its narrow interest. It is also time to put the U.S. Congress on record in support of the freedom movements around South Asia in the form of a free and fair plebiscite on their political status. These measures will help spread freedom and undermine the efforts of the terrorists to destroy our principles.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to place the Council of Khalistan's open letter on the Indian at-

tack on Kashmir into the RECORD for the information of my colleagues.

INDIAN ATTACK ON KASHMIR PROVIDES OPPORTUNITY FOR FREEDOM; INDIA IS NOT ONE NATION

Taking advantage of the U.S. war on terrorism to advance its own agenda, India has begun shelling Azad (Free) Kashmir. This action brings the war over Kashmir out into the open just as Secretary of State Colin Powell is arriving in South Asia. Unfortunately, there will undoubtedly be casualties, and most of them will be Kashmiris, Sikhs, and other minorities. The only party that benefits from this is the Indian government, which has murdered over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984, over 200,000 Christians in Nagaland since 1947, more than 75,000 Kashmiri Muslims since 1988, and tens of thousands of Dalits (dark-skinned "Untouchables," the aboriginal people of South Asia), Tamils, Bodos, Assamese, Manipuris, and others.

This act by India shows who America's real allies are, and which country is the real supporter of terrorism. Once again, India is claiming that it is going after terrorism, despite India's own record of terrorism.

In November 1994, the Indian newspaper Hitavada reported that the Indian government paid the late governor of Punjab, Surendra Nath, approximately \$1.5 billion to organize and support covert state terrorism in Punjab, Khalistan, and in Kashmir. The book *Soft Target*, written by journalists from the Toronto Star and the Toronto Globe and Mail, shows that the Indian government blew up its own airliner in 1985, killing 329 innocent people. According to India Today, the Indian government created the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) and put up LTTE leaders in New Delhi's finest hotel. The LTTE were created to stop a U.S. broadcast tower in Sri Lanka. Then the Indian government turned on the LTTE because the LTTE seeks an independent country for Tamils.

The Indian government sentenced Devinder Singh Bhullar to death because he advocated Khalistan, yet Ribeiro, Ray, K.P.S. Gill, Swaran Singh Ghotna, and the other police and political officials who committed genocide against the Sikhs are not punished. In June a train carrying Sikh religious pilgrims was attacked by militant Hindu fundamentalists. On May 27, several Indian soldiers were caught red-handed trying to set fire to a Gurdwara and some Sikh homes in Kashmir. Sikh and Muslim residents of the village overwhelmed the troops and stopped them from carrying out this atrocity.

A report issued in April by the Movement Against State Repression (MASR) shows that India admitted that it held 52,268 political prisoners under the repressive "Terrorist and Disruptive Activities Act" (TADA). These Sikh political prisoners must be released immediately. These prisoners continue to be held under TADA even though it expired in 1995. Persons arrested under TADA are routinely re-arrested upon their release. Cases were routinely registered against Sikh activists under TADA in states other than Punjab to give the police an excuse to continue holding them. The MASR report quotes the Punjab Civil Magistracy as writing "if we add up the figures of the last few years the number of innocent persons killed would run into lakhs [hundreds of thousands.]" As General Narinder Singh has said, "Punjab is a police state." U.S. Congressman Dana Rohrabacher has said that for minorities like the Sikhs, the Muslims of Kashmir, and others, "India might as well be Nazi Germany."

It is not just Sikhs who are being targeted by Indian terrorism. In 1997, a Christian religious festival was broken up by police gunfire. Since Christmas 1998, Christians have

been subjected to a reign of terror which has seen the murder of priests, the rape of nuns, the burning of churches, attacks on Christian schools and prayer halls, and other incidents carried out by supporters of the pro-Fascist Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh (RSS), the parent organization of the ruling BJP, which was formed in support of the Nazis. RSS activists also burned missionary Graham Staines and his two young sons, ages 8 and 10, to death while they slept in their jeeps. The killers gathered around the jeep chanting "Victory to Hannuman," a Hindu god. Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee told an audience in New York last year, "I will always be a Swayamsewak."

India is also anti-American. According to the May 18, 1999 issue of the Indian Express, the Indian Defense Minister met with the Ambassadors from terrorist countries Iraq, Libya, and Cuba, as well as Red China, Russia, and Serbia, to set up a security alliance "to stop the U.S." India voted with the dictators to throw the United States off the UN Human Rights Commission. It votes against America at the United Nations more often than any country except Cuba. It voted to suppress a U.S.-sponsored resolution critical of China's human-rights violations. It was a strong Soviet ally.

This is an ideal opportunity to begin a Shantmai Morcha and form a Khalsa Raj party to achieve independence for Khalistan and to liberate the other countries seeking their freedom from Indian occupation. Remember the words of former Akal Takht Jathedar Professor Darshan Singh: "If a Sikh is not Khalistani, he is not a Sikh." Self-determination is the right of all people and nations.

Pro-Khalistan handbills were handed out at the Golden Temple on June 7 during the commemoration of Gallughara Divas and Sant Bhindranwale's martyrdom. Ajmer Singh Lakhowal, the head of the Bharat Kisan Union, has called for self-determination for the Sikhs. The flame of freedom burns bright in the hearts of the Sikhs.

When we liberate Khalistan, we will be more respected, appreciated, and understood by Americans and throughout the world. We must take this occasion to renew our commitment to free Khalistan. Every Sikh should put a bumper sticker on his or her car saying "INDIA FREE KHALISTAN." This sticker is available from this office.

In 1947, when India was divided, the cunning and deceitful Hindu leadership promised that Sikhs would have the glow of freedom in Punjab and that no law affecting Sikh rights would be passed without Sikh consent. As soon as the transfer of power had occurred and India was free, those promises were broken. Instead, India began its effort to wipe out the Sikh people, the Sikh Nation, and the Sikh religion.

Sikhs gave over 80 percent of the sacrifices to free India from the British. At that time, they were only 1.6 percent of the population. Sikhs are the ones who suffered the most after the freedom and partition of India. Fifty percent of the Sikh population had to migrate from the Pakistan side of Punjab to the Indian side of Punjab. Sikhs were prosperous farmers in West Punjab. They lost their fertile farming land. When they were allotted lands in Indian Punjab, everyone got a cut between 25 and 95 percent of their acreage.

In a free Khalistan, there will be economic prosperity. The Punjab farmers will be able to sell their produce at high prices in the international market and buy cheaper fertilizers, insecticides, and seeds. Farm produce will not lie in the market for weeks without buyers as it did during the sale of the rice crop last year.

We must have a full, free, and fair plebiscite on the status of Khalistan and we must

launch a Shantmai Morcha to liberate our homeland. India is not one nation. It has 18 official languages. Let us take this opportunity to bring freedom to our homeland and all the countries of South Asia.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF ROGER HERNON

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, today, I was deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Roger Hernon.

Roger Hernon was a great American, and is to be commended for his accomplishments as the city of Warren Fire Chief and City Councilman. He leaves behind a wife, Norma; nine sons; 18 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Roger first began his firefighting career in May of 1960 when he was hired as a Warren firefighter. He was then promoted to fire chief in 1978. Roger was also a founding member of the Irish Heritage Society, where he earned the "Erin Go Bragh Irishman" of the Year Award in 1985. Not only did Roger serve his community as a Warren City Councilman-At-Large, but he also served his country in the Korean war where he was awarded the Purple Heart.

Roger Hernon will be sorely missed, and I extend my deepest sympathy to his family.

TRIBUTE TO JUSTICE JAMES H. BRICKLEY

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday a memorial service was held to honor and remember an exceptional distinguished citizen of our State of Michigan.

Jim Brickley life's work spanned all three branches of government. Early in his career, he served as a legislator on the Detroit Common Council. He served in the Executive Branch, in state government twice as Lieutenant Governor and much earlier in the FBI after he graduated law school in 1954. His legal career encompassed work in early years as an assistant prosecutor, later as a U.S. attorney and at the end of his public career as a Justice and Chief Justice of the Michigan Supreme Court.

The public careers of few individuals ever achieve such a broad scope. What is even more remarkable is the talent and integrity which Jim Brickley brought to each segment of his life's work. He also brought a decency and humanity into public life that reflected his numerous, diverse relationships in his private life cutting across all racial, religious and ethnic lines.

Michigan will miss Jim Brickley. He was an exceptional public servant. We send our deepest condolences to his wife Joyce Braithwaite and the entire family.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. RUTH GRUBER

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to Dr. Ruth Gruber who recently celebrated her ninetieth birthday on September 30th, 2001. A courageous leader, devoted humanitarian, acclaimed journalist, and loving grandmother, Dr. Gruber's contribution to New York and our nation is immeasurable.

At the age of 20, Dr. Gruber became the youngest Ph.D. in the world. That, a remarkable achievement in and of itself, was only the first of many unprecedented accomplishments. In 1944, at the request of then Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes, Dr. Gruber was sent on a top secret mission to escort 1,000 refugees from war-torn Europe to America. After safely arriving back in the United States, she immediately led the charge to ensure that the refugees be allowed to stay in the country permanently.

Dr. Gruber's talents as a journalist took her to all corners of the globe. She was the first foreign correspondent to enter the Soviet gulag, an experience which she chronicled in her book, *I Went to the Soviet Arctic*. She visited Korea and Vietnam to write *They Came to Stay*, a book about 10 Korean children who had been adopted by families in the United States. Through her many books and articles Dr. Gruber has been our eyes on the world. We are fortunate that she went to places she knew we needed to see and told such compelling stories.

In February, CBS will air *Haven*, a four hour documentary chronicling Dr. Gruber's exceptional life. At age ninety, she still has plans to write more books, although much of her time is spent with her precious grandchildren. It is my privilege to thank Dr. Gruber for all she has done for our society, and of course, to wish her a happy ninetieth birthday.

HONORING THELMA HERMAN

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it brings me great pleasure to have the opportunity to congratulate Thelma Herman, who recently celebrated her 103rd birthday. It isn't often that one encounters a person with such longevity and, according to her friends at Belmont Senior Care, she is still going strong.

Thelma has spent much of her life living in Pueblo, Colorado. As a young adult, she worked as a telephone operator and at a pharmacy. She has outlived both of her siblings and has only one surviving relative. Thelma cannot quite nail down exactly why she has survived so long, but she has always been relatively healthy. Thelma has developed a wide variety of healthy habits throughout her life including drinking a glass of water with every meal, taking a walk each day, never snacking between meals and brushing her teeth several times per day. Her advice to young Americans today is to be a good citizen. Thelma has been a good role model and citizen who has voted nearly her entire life.

Mr. Speaker, it brings me great pleasure to congratulate Thelma for this phenomenal achievement. She is an exceptional individual and I wish her only the best and continued prosperity. Happy Birthday Thelma!

OPPRESSION OF AFGHAN WOMEN

HON. EARL F. HILLIARD

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my distress over the oppression of Afghan women. These women, who only won their freedom for a few years in all of history, have been driven back into oppression by a brutal, violent and blindly ignorant regime. Forced by the Taliban out of the schools allowed by former ruler Nur Mohammed Taraki, women are now uneducated. Women cannot work, but can be forced to beg for bread.

Women are forbidden to sing or listen to music, and will be viciously beaten if seen in public with men who are not relatives. Women in today's Afghanistan cannot be treated by a male doctor, and will be killed if they are treated by one. The life expectancy of Afghan women is 43, almost half that of American women. This vicious oppression is not the will of God or of any decent man.

Women have been oppressed throughout the ages by every society on earth, but have gone a long way toward gaining freedom and dignity. Afghanistan's brutal rulers and their fundamentalist counterparts in other religions must not be allowed to destroy the lives, the futures, and the honor of women.

This Congress must support these desperate victims and any counterparts they have in any other part of the world. People of faith from every nation and every religion must unite to end all use of twisted religious rhetoric, to oppress any person. We must apply this principle to Afghanistan now, and to our own lives everyday.

TRIBUTE TO BOB LARSON, FOUNDER OF NORTHWOODS AIRLIFELINE

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Michigan resident Bob Larson, a man who turned his own passion for flying into a non-profit, lifesaving organization that serves the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

Bob is the prime mover behind Northwoods Airlifeline, an organization of pilots who volunteer their time and aircraft to help obtain medical assistance unavailable in Upper Michigan. Since Bob conceived the service in 1989, Northwoods Airlifeline has flown more than 1,100 missions—all free of charge, Mr. Speaker—to destinations all around the Midwest.

Northwoods Airlifeline fills a gap in critical services by transporting patients who may be financially distressed, who may be unable to travel by car or commercial transportation, or who for medical reasons may face severe time constraints.

The primary need of individuals served by Northwoods Airlifeline has been organ transplants, since there is no facility in Upper Michigan to perform this procedure. The service has also met the needs of chronically-ill people who cannot afford to fly or drive long distances, and it has transported medical patients who are beyond medical help to be with their loved ones.

Bob Larson, a native of Minneapolis, Minnesota, and a World War II Navy veteran, took flying lessons after he left the service and went to work in Chicago, where he bought his first plane in 1958.

But Bob, along with Ruth, his wife of 57 years, who is a registered nurse, eventually moved back to the North Woods, settling in the small town of Witch Lake in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. The Larsons shared a dream of forming an air medical service to assist friends and neighbors in times of medical emergency.

From these two caring, giving, loving individuals Northwoods Airlifeline was born, and it is still coordinated by Bob today. The organization recruits volunteer pilots, operates a dispatching network to receive and fill requests for transportation, and conducts community education and fund raising programs for its services. There are no salaried personnel or rental expenses. Pilots and volunteers absorb fuel costs and other expenses, and all donations go toward the administrative costs of transporting those in need.

The high regard in which the service is held can be summed up in the comments of a man who was flown out of state for a surgical procedure, "Well, I have met some real-life angels, wings included," he said, "only their wings are attached to the airplanes they fly."

Bob Larson is being honored on Oct. 20 by Iron Mountain Chapter #44, Order of the Eastern Star, which has selected him as the 13th recipient of the annual Eastern Star Community Service Award. The purpose of the award is to recognize an individual, not affiliated with any Masonic or Masonic-related organization, who has shown unselfish dedication for the betterment of the community and the world in general.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage you and all our House colleagues to go on the World Wide Web at www.northwoodsairlifeline.org and read about the other men and women who make this vital service possible, and read the wonderful stories of the families that Northwoods Airlifeline has assisted.

We say that dreamers have their heads in the clouds, Mr. Speaker, but maybe it's up in the clouds, where Bob Larson spent so much time, that one gains the best perspective of the world and the place of each individual in it. So I ask you to join me in celebrating the accomplishments of two dreamers, Bob and Ruth Larson, and the wonderful volunteer organization they have brought into being.

ON INTRODUCTION OF THE TERRORIST RESPONSE TAX EXEMPTION ACT

HON. J. RANDY FORBES

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, tonight, I rise with my colleague, Congressman VITO

FOSSELLA of New York, to introduce the Terrorist Response Tax Exemption Act, which would provide our first responders with the tax benefits that they deserve for serving on the front lines of our war against terrorism.

As we speak, men and women are putting their lives at risk to fight terrorist threats both abroad and at home. For the American military personnel who are overseas, the federal government currently excludes from taxable income the salary they receive in any month they serve in a combat zone. This is a suitable recognition of the increased risk in which they place themselves to protect our freedoms and of the increased burdens on their families given that risk.

But, today, we know that the men and women who serve as fire, rescue, and police personnel can be just as much at risk. Terrorists have brought the frontlines into our communities, and it is these first responders that are first on the scene, first to assess the situation, and first to respond to the needs of the victims. As the World Trade Center attack has proven, they are just as much in jeopardy of losing their lives as the soldiers and sailors engaged overseas—perhaps even more so as our military technology advances. They and their families deserve the same tax benefits for serving in terrorist attack zones.

That is precisely what the Terrorist Response Tax Exemption Act does. It exempts from federal income the basic pay that a uniformed civilian employee earns for any month in which they serve the public in a terrorist attack zone. It provides well-deserved recognition of the hard and dangerous work that these individuals perform. The Senate companion bill, S. 1446, has already been endorsed by the Fraternal Order of Police, the International Association of Fire Chiefs, and other organizations that represent our public safety personnel.

It is not that we anticipate that this tax incentive will encourage this kind of heroic public service. In fact, we know for a fact that these men and women perform their duties out of a sense of honor and an overwhelming desire to help others in need. But, we should show them our gratitude with more than words of thanks. I encourage my colleagues to join us in cosponsoring this legislation.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ANTHONY T. CAPOZZOLO

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor the life and memory of Anthony T. "Capps" Capozzolo, a man who always sought to brighten the horizons for others, especially through increasing educational opportunities.

Born at his father's dairy farm in Pueblo, Colorado, Capps learned what hard work was at a very early age. At one time, he sold newspapers while attending school and tending to the chores of his family's farm. Capps followed his heart, however, and proved to be a fantastic dancer. At the age of 18, Capps left Pueblo and joined his brother in California where he pursued his passion for dancing. It was here that he met his dance partner, Theresa Harmon, who would eventually become

his wife. The couple performed in numerous reputable studios like Columbia Pictures and MGM. Capps and Theresa also worked to help raise money for charitable contributions.

Beyond his dancing performances, Capps served his community whenever he could. He was a charter member of the Assistance League in Palm Springs, California, the Desert Hospital Auxiliary and the Opera Guild of the Desert to name only a few. Upon the death of his wife Theresa, he founded a gallery of art at St. Martin's Abbey and College in Lacy, Washington. Furthermore, Capps became a generous donor to the performing arts at the University of Southern Colorado and funded a scholarship and various activities of the University. In August of 1998, his honorable service to others was recognized with the 1998 Pope John XXIII award offered by the Italian Catholic Federation, which recognizes community achievements, civic involvement and religious vitality.

Mr. Speaker, Anthony Capozzolo was an honorable man who will be remembered by many. At this time, I would like to acknowledge the outstanding contributions that Capps made and recognize his selfless acts of kindness. He truly was an example for others to emulate. I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to the Capozzolo family during this time of remembrance and I would like them to know that my thoughts and prayers are with them now and for years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF ONE EARTH ONE PEOPLE ON ITS 10TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize One Earth One People, an organization in Cincinnati, Ohio that will celebrate its 10th Anniversary on October 26, 2001.

One Earth One People was founded by Jane Church in October, 1990. Jane continues to serve as its president, and she has played a key role in making this innovative nonprofit environmental education organization such a success.

The vision of One Earth One People is to "network youth around the world via Interactive Telecommunications to prepare them to preserve their local and global environment." And, its mission is to work with all sectors and ethnic groups, "offering students hands-on educational experiences to increase their scientific knowledge, enhance their communication, leadership and other lifelong skills and attitudes to protect the environment through sharing, cooperation and cultural understanding."

Although One Earth One People is based in Cincinnati, its work can be seen throughout Ohio, across our nation and around the world. Some of its activities and accomplishments include: running 21 student workshops in local elementary, middle and high schools; publishing "The OEOP Newsletter," which is read by over 1,500 area teachers, students, com-

munity organizations and supporters; and attending several seminars and conferences held by Earth Day USA and the United Nations Environment Programme.

One Earth One People's work also includes the Youth Cloth Bag Project, which encourages consumers to use reusable cloth bags when they shop. Just this year, the Youth Cloth Bag Project was expanded so that schools that sell cloth bags can use the proceeds to help preserve wildlife habitats in Adams County, Ohio and in the Maya Mountain Marine Corridor in Belize.

I have enjoyed meeting with the participants involved in One Earth One People. It provides young people with valuable knowledge about the environment and how to work together as team players and communicators. It also offers hands-on experience in organizing, problem solving, decision making and other important life skills.

Mr. Speaker, One Earth One People has been an effective organization in the Cincinnati area. I hope my colleagues will join me in thanking its members for their dedication to our environment and in congratulating the organization on 10 years of community service.

PATRIOT ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2001

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, the House was scheduled to take up H.R. 2975, a bill to give law enforcement greater latitude in finding and combating terrorism. The version that was scheduled to come to the floor was the result of bipartisan negotiations between the Republicans and Democrats on the House Judiciary Committee. The Committee was careful in crafting this bill, since any effort to give law enforcement these greater investigatory powers has an impact on the civil liberties of all Americans.

However, Friday morning, the House Rules Committee reported a measure providing for debate of H.R. 2975 that inserted a substitute measure still warm from printing. With the exception of the Members of Congress directly involved in the substitute's drafting, the majority of the Members of the House had little idea what the 175 pages of this bill would do to our laws. It is crucial that our legislative branch of government has adequate time to scrutinize and debate legislation that could have a drastic effect on the privacy and civil rights of our people.

This bill would dramatically alter our existing wiretap laws under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA). FISA sets the bar for obtaining a wiretap order to investigate foreign agents much lower than laws governing regular domestic criminal investigations. In the past, the courts have held that the Fourth Amendment's prohibition on unreasonable search and seizure protects our citizens from surveillance without probable cause, except in cases concerning foreign intelligence operations. Surveillance under FISA is granted by a secret court whose decisions and pro-

ceedings are not part of the public record, and those being wiretapped never know that such an order has been granted, and have no way to appeal the court's decision.

Presently, a wiretap under FISA can be obtained if the target is suspected of being an agent of a foreign power, without probable cause. The bill passed by the House would allow a person to be secretly wiretapped under the easier FISA rules as long as foreign intelligence is at least one component of the investigation. This means that Americans not suspected of being spies can now be placed under surveillance as if they are foreign agents, without the usual protections of the Fourth Amendment. So, without probable cause, the government would be able to secretly authorize wiretaps to trace the calls made to the person being monitored, as well as monitor their Internet activity. Although the bill says that the Internet surveillance is limited to the address visited but not the content, all a government agency has to do to capture content is to use the Internet address information gathered and visit the site in question.

Not only does this allow American intelligence agencies to spy on Americans, but the bill authorizes the sharing of information gathered with other federal agencies without judicial authorization. This means American intelligence agencies like the Central Intelligence Agency would be able to collect information from other agencies about the activities of our citizens. Also, under this bill's more relaxed rules, FISA can be used to authorize "black bag" searches, which would allow the government to secretly enter a person's home without their knowledge and remove or copy documents and other items.

Another troubling provision grants the authority to the secret court established by FISA to allow the Federal Bureau of Investigation to obtain individuals' financial and personal records without that person's consent or knowledge. Because this would be done under the relaxed requirements of FISA, the judge's order is sufficient to allow the FBI to obtain personal information without probable cause, yet another instance where the bill goes around the Fourth Amendment.

The bill the House was scheduled to consider would sunset most surveillance provisions in 2003, when Congress could review and then renew these changes if necessary. The bill that was actually taken up would sunset its surveillance provisions in 2004, and allow the President to further extend the sunset provisions by an additional two years, which would effectively be a five-year sunset provision.

It has been said that extraordinary times call for extraordinary measures. While this may be true, it is also true that our civil liberties are what sets America apart from other nations. Although the House-passed measure contained language to sunset some of the bill's provisions, I fear that once this line is crossed, we will never be able to go back. Without adequate discussion of this bill's merits and effects on our rights, I could not support this measure. I hope that the House-Senate conference committee will carefully consider the impact this legislation could have on our lives, and make corrections so that I can support the final version of this bill that we send to the President to become the law of the land.

INTEL ACHIEVES ENVIRONMENTAL SUCCESS

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to inform my colleagues that Intel New Mexico has become the first Excellence Award winner as part of my home state's Green Zia Environmental Excellence program. This is a significant achievement.

The Green Zia program was launched three years ago, but no business had ever been named an Excellence Award winner, which is the program's highest honor. For the past two years, Intel New Mexico had won the program's Achievement Award.

This award would not have been possible without the support of every employee of Intel New Mexico. Indeed, the company has a fully integrated, prevention-based environmental management system in place throughout their site in New Mexico. Some of the company's major environmental achievements include: a water conservation rate of more than 50 percent; a recycling rate of 78 percent for solid waste with only 22 percent going to a landfill; and a 20 percent reduction in volatile organic compound emissions from last year.

The company also has strong environmental programs for employees, including commute reduction, recycling, and several volunteer programs in which employees directly contribute.

Mr. Speaker, Intel is one of the largest employers in my state, and I am pleased at the fine example they have set for other businesses. The crowning achievement of Intel New Mexico's efforts in environmental stewardship is proving that environmental protection is good business, that sound environmental practices are good for business, and that the environment is everyone's business.

HONORING THE LIFE OF RICHARD MIUCCIO

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, the vicious attack unleashed on our country on September 11, 2001 left tears in many American's eyes. Many people were victims in this tragedy and as the recovery efforts continue, many innocent citizens are being uncovered amidst the bricks and steel of the collapsed buildings. On that day, Richard Miuccio was killed at the hands of this terrible and malicious assault. I would like to take a moment to pay tribute and recognize the life of Richard.

Richard was born on May 23, 1946 and was raised on Staten Island in New York. This city served as his residence for his entire life. Thirty-four years ago he married his childhood sweetheart, Joyce Black, and they became the proud parents of three children—Owen, Laura and Thomas. Rich was employed for thirty-five years with the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance and served as the Auditor Supervisor in the last years of his employment. He served honorably in the United

States Army and from 1967 to 1968 Rich served in active duty in the war in Vietnam.

St. Mary's Church on Staten Island always held a special place in Rich's heart and he was a member of the church for 20 years. Faith played an integral part for Richard and his family and they routinely attended services for solace. Richard was battling prostate cancer and his fight proved victorious. He credited much of this to his faith and his family.

Mr. Speaker, Rich will always be remembered as a man who had a quick smile and a gentle spirit. His passing leaves an emptiness in the lives of those who knew and loved him. Rich will always remain in our hearts and in our prayers. While the flag of our great nation flies high, the lives of those who were lost in this incident will never be forgotten. I would like to stand together with this body and offer our deepest sympathies to Richard's family at this time of remembrance. Our thoughts and prayers are with them.

HONORING THE LIFE OF HOUSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT CAPTAIN JAY JAHNKE

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the life of Houston Fire Department Captain Jay H. Jahnke. A 20-year veteran of the department, Jahnke, aged 40, died in the line of duty on the morning of Saturday, October 13, 2001.

Captain Jahnke and the three other fire fighters were attempting to help residents trapped by choking smoke and flames escape a fire that had broken out in a high-rise apartment building. After carrying over 100 pounds of equipment up five flights of stairs, in full gear including breathing apparatus, they found themselves trapped by the blaze. The crew sent in to rescue Capt. Jahnke and his men were also temporarily trapped by the fury and intensity of this fire before being rescued. While no other fire fighters were killed, several others were injured.

Due to the rapid response and quick action of the Houston Fire Department, only one resident died in this fire. Three fire fighters and 12 residents were hospitalized for smoke inhalation or burns. 300 residents were left homeless by this fierce blaze.

As the grandson and nephew of fire fighters myself, I am familiar with the Jahnke name. For many years, Jahnkes have served in the Houston Fire Department with distinction. Currently, over a dozen Jahnkes answer the call and lay their lives on the line as fire fighters. Numerous other fire fighters are part of the Jahnke extended family through marriage.

His father, Claude Jahnke, was a District Chief who died of a heart attack while training for the departmental Olympics. Three uncles, former District Chief Marvin "Roe" Jahnke, who died in 1991; retired Assistant Chief Eugene "Duke" Jahnke; and former District Chief in charge of cadet training, and namesake for the department's training center Val Jahnke, all protected our community for many years.

Jay Jahnke died doing his job, trying to protect and evacuate Houstonians whose lives were in danger. The words of his cousin, Dis-

trict Chief Steve Jahnke, say it best: "That early in the morning, you know there are people sleeping in. They had to get them out, so they took a calculated risk. That's what the job's about. We don't ever go in trying to commit suicide, but we do take calculated risks, and that's what Jay did. It's what all firemen do."

Jahnke is survived by his wife, Dawn; daughter, Jayne, 11; son, Hunter, 8; mother, Katherine; brother, Jeff; and sisters Karen and Mary Ann.

Mr. Speaker, across our nation every day, people like Capt. Jahnke put their lives on the line. Later this week, I plan to introduce legislation that would help not just the Houston Fire Department, but departments across America protect our lives and homes by providing Federal assistance for hiring additional fire fighters.

The SAFER Act of 2001, which would be modeled after the successful Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS), will provide direct funding in the form of grants to States or communities for the hiring of additional fire fighters. It will help fire departments meet industry minimum standards for staffing and enhance the ability of fire fighters to save lives, property, and effectively respond to emergencies.

We can never replace Houston Fire Captain Jay Jahnke, loving father and husband, skilled fire fighter, and loyal friend. It is my hope, though, that we can provide the residents of Houston with a greater level of fire protection, and prevent incidents like this one from happening in the future.

HONORING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF ARMENIAN INDEPENDENCE

HON. ERIC CANTOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, recently, Armenia celebrated its 10th anniversary of independence from the Soviet Union. This anniversary reminds us of the strong bond that the people of the United States and Armenia share. As we grieve for the victims of the terrorist attacks on September 11, so do the Armenian people. The Armenian people have expressed their solidarity with the American people. Armenian President Robert Kocharian has offered rescue aid to help in the recovery efforts. Moreover, Armenia has joined with the United States and the world in the fight against terrorism.

Earlier this year in a House Resolution, I joined with the people of Armenia, the Armenian Church in America, and His Holiness Karekin II in celebrating the ideals and values they share with the people of the United States. These values are essential to the continued stability and economic prosperity in the region. In a letter to President Kocharian of Armenia, President George W. Bush echoed these ideals. President Bush states, "our countries continue to work together to achieve our common goal of establishing peace and stability and seeing Armenia prosper. Peace in this region will provide Armenia with great opportunities to ensure the economic prosperity and security of future generations."

Traces of Armenian heritage are evident in the United States and worldwide. Throughout the United States, and in my state of Virginia, there are multiple monuments, towns, and mountains celebrating Armenian heritage. One of Virginia's own search and rescue teams aided the Armenian people during the unfortunate earthquake of 1988.

The close bonds between Armenia and the United States are constantly being strengthened. I am confident that the people of Armenia and America will flourish together in the spirit of freedom and democracy.

COMMENDING DELTA AIRLINES

HON. CYNTHIA A. MCKINNEY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my admiration to a Good Corporate Citizen. I would like to call attention to the thoughtful actions being performed by Delta Airlines in response to the attacks of September 11, 2001.

The airline industry in this country has suffered a catastrophe with the events of September 11, along with the rest of the country. However the tragedy was not a license to treat people poorly. Other airlines ejected passengers from their seats because fellow passengers were scared to fly with people of Middle Eastern descent. While others committed vicious acts like these, Delta took another road and sent out a memo from the president Fred Reid saying: "Delta has an uncompromising policy never to discriminate against customers on the basis of race, gender, age, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, or similar classifications. The law mandates this policy—discrimination is not only illegal, it is wrong and will not be tolerated".

If only the rest of this nation's airline carriers could follow Delta's lead.

Instead other airline carriers ignored the law and punished innocent people just trying to fly during a difficult time. But what do you expect from airlines that blindly cut jobs and not executive salaries?

I stand today to commend Delta for the careful cost cutting measures it has taken to preserve jobs and morale as the airlines weather these uncertain times. Delta has put the needs of their workers first. No employee at Delta will be left out in the cold this winter. You can tell a lot about a corporation by the way they act when the going gets tough.

Finally I want to commend Delta for providing complimentary tickets to New York City on behalf of volunteer relief workers who are giving so much to the recovery effort. Delta has been a true Corporate Good Citizen and on behalf of a grateful nation we thank you!

HONORING ROBERTA BARR

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize a person

who truly understands the importance of education. Roberta Barr has spent a majority of her life dedicated to helping others and ensuring that all who cross her path receive only the best education possible. Even after retiring from her formal role as an educator, she has continued in her quest and has remained diligent to helping others.

Roberta Barr, now 87, grew up in La Plata County, Colorado. She graduated from Durango High School in 1931 and went on to receive her teaching certificate from Fort Lewis College. From 1933 to 1979 Roberta taught at many different local schools and was appointed Principal of Mason Elementary School in 1962. Roberta returned to school earning a Master's Degree at Western State. She has been retired from teaching for the last 22 years, but continues to contribute to educating others in her community.

Roberta and her husband Robert never had any children of their own, so after her husband passed away she established the Robert and Roberta Armstrong Barr Foundation. This foundation has been set up to provide up to ten thousand dollars in scholarships each year to students from the State of Colorado who attend Fort Lewis College or Western College and plan to become teachers. The foundation provides financial assistance to future educators and is designed so that the funds do not diminish, even after Roberta is gone.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have this opportunity to recognize Roberta Barr for the significant contributions that she has made to educating her community. She has spent her life teaching others and through her foundation will now be able to continue her life's ambition indefinitely. Her selfless dedication certainly deserves the praise and admiration of this body.

POEM BY AMY FARLEY

HON. JIM DeMINT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. DEMINT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention a poem written by one of my constituents, Amy Farley. Amy is one of the many youth in our nation who are struggling to deal with the tragedy surrounding the September 11 attacks. As the children of today are our nation's brightest hope for the future, we should reach out to console them and encourage them to express themselves as they cope with these unfamiliar times. I would like to commend Amy and her effort to honor and remember the events of September 11, 2001 by highlighting the poem she submitted to Mauldin High School:

A POEM OF TRIBUTE . . . AND WARNING
(By Amy Farley, Age 16, Junior at Mauldin High School)

For the mothers, fathers, sisters, and brothers,
For the colleagues, friends, children, and lovers,
For the three brave men of flight 93,
For the 200 fighters under Trade Center debris.
For Father Michael, the FDNY chaplain
For the thousands who will never see our flag again

For the students who ran, their lives in danger
For our president who acts with quiet anger
For astronauts who see dust and fire from space
For each battered, broken, and bloody face
For the Muslims who have been beaten by racists
For the FBI, as they search for the terrorists
For all of America as they watch in horror,
For Britain, as she watches her crippled daughter
For France, as they stand in a moment of silence
For the UN, who condemns such acts of violence
For Iraqis, who have never known freedom
For the Afghanistans, trusting the men that lead them
For the women there who live in fright,
For the young men coerced by bin Laden to fight
For the Pentagon, once thought impenetrable
For those trapped in crevices rendered unreachable
For the thousands of innocents maimed or killed,
For the pain and suffering New Yorkers feel
For the rescuers, convinced that hell's not this bad,
For the children at home without moms and dads
For the people who have to clean up the mess,
For the volunteers who do just as much for less
For those so hurt that they can't see the light
For the tables with empty seats tonight,
For those who eventually have to go back
For those who saw the sky turn black.
For all the world, because we've all been affected
Because of the attack that could not be deflected
We pray for you all, and hold you near
As our hearts ache and our eyes tear
Because of a few violent people out there
Who just by chance caught the US unaware
The whole world has been turned upside down
And now, nothing seems it will ever be sound
So hear this, world, countrymen and foes
America will not be disrupted by those
Who attack viciously in the broad daylight
We will not surrender this terrible fight
We will punish who did these heinous crimes
We will scrape together our nickels and dimes
So know that we will stand together,
With liberty and justice for all . . . FOREVER.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, October 12, 2001 it was unavoidable that I missed two roll call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted: Roll Call 385—Motion to Recommit H.R. 2975, the anti-terrorism initiative—Yes. Roll Call 386—Passage of H.R. 2975, the anti-terrorism initiative.—No.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO BECKY
SMITH

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to acknowledge an extraordinary individual who resides in Colorado's Third Congressional District. Becky Smith, who will be stepping down from the Board of Education in the Bayfield School District, has dedicated her life to education in her commu-

nity. It is my privilege to have the opportunity to thank her for twelve years of exceptional service.

Ms. Smith has made considerable efforts to support education and children's athletics both inside and outside of the classroom. She is a computer teacher in a neighboring school district and volunteers for numerous school related activities while teaching quilting and sewing classes in her free time. During her tenure on the Board of Education, Becky has held several positions and accomplished many initiatives. As President, Vice-President and Director of the Board, she has helped in acquiring funding for a new elementary school addi-

tion, renovating the middle school, building a new high school which included a new athletic facility for the students and surrounding community. Becky is a role model for others who will succeed her on the Board of Education.

Mr. Speaker, Becky Smith has been a true asset to the Bayfield Board of Education. Her contributions to education in her community and her selflessness deeds will not be forgotten. The Bayfield School District and the surrounding communities are grateful for the guidance and leadership that she has displayed. I would like to thank Becky and wish her the all the best in her future endeavors.